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DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Report of the Executive Director

1. At its annual session 1997, the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board decided to consider the draft terms of reference of the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health at its third regular session 1997 (decision 97/20). The draft terms of reference, which were adopted by the Executive Board of the World Health Organization at its 100th session, 16 May 1997 (resolution EB100.R2), are provided in the Annex to this report.

ANNEX

WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. The WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health (CCH) shall meet biennially, or in Special Session if required, normally in Geneva. The Committee shall be chaired in rotation by a member of the Executive Board of each organization; WHO, as the lead agency in international health, will chair the first session.

2. The role of the CCH will be:

(a) To review the overall needs for strategic, operational and technical coordination in the fields of maternal, child, adolescent and women's health and reproductive health including family planning and sexual health; ensure regular exchange of information in these areas and to make recommendations to the respective Executive Boards for follow-up action by the secretariats, as appropriate;

(b) To promote consistency in implementation strategies and activities among the three organizations and with other partners, for the maximum benefit of Member States, especially at the country level within the context of the Resident Coordinator system and, in this context, to ensure that these are guided by the overall policy framework for health development as defined by the World Health Assembly;

(c) To receive and review progress and assessment reports presented by the Director-General of the World Health Organization, the Executive Director of UNICEF or the Executive Director of UNFPA, on activities pertaining to the health of children, young people and women, including reproductive health, and to review any reorientation of strategy that may be necessary to meet agreed objectives;

(d) To consider matters of common concern to WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA which the Executive Boards or the Secretariats of the respective organizations may refer to this Committee;

(e) To report to the WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA Executive Boards on the foregoing matters.

3. The WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health shall be composed of 16 members of the Executive Boards of the three organizations, such members being selected by their respective Boards on the basis of one from each region of the organization concerned.

4. WHO shall provide the Secretariat for the Committee and, in consultation with UNICEF and UNFPA, jointly convene intersecretariat meetings to prepare the agenda and supporting documentation for the sessions of the Committee.

5. Further intersecretariat meetings may be convened in alternate years, where appropriate with other organizations active in health, to ensure a coordinated approach at country level.